

## **Rohingya Christians Persecution**

The Rohingya Christians came into being in the early 20th century through the work of missionaries in their respective regions. Christianity is practiced by 0.75% of the Rohingya population. Most of them were converted in Buthidaung town, Myanmar in 2004.

Rohingya Christians are dispersed around the world due to the persecution that broke out against the Rohingya in 2012 and 2016. They dispersed to Bangladesh, India, Australia, the US and Europe. Their existence is attested by many international organizations, including the United Nations.

### **Discrimination Against Rohingya Christians**

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Rohingya Christians have faced some hostility and even persecution since the 1980s. Rohingya Christians in the region often find themselves in a complicated and difficult situation due to threats. The double threats they face: first the Tatmadaw, then the radical Muslims among their Rohingya neighbors. As a result, they are often shunned by the community and face more hardships due to their faith, such as kidnapping, harassment, sexual abuse, lack of educational opportunities for their children, compared to their peers. Other Rohingya and refused to be buried.

### **Persecution Against Rohingya Christians**

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#### **December 201**

A Christian named Taher from Kutupalong camp was arrested by the police because he was a “Christian”. Although he was a registered refugee, he was jailed for being an illegal immigrant from Myanmar.

After this incident, local leader Baktiar Ahmed, who runs the Rohingya camps, called a community school, named Forid, to the market. When Forid arrives, he is assaulted and forced to pay Baktiar Ahmed.

#### **March 12th, 2017**

When the Rohingya Christians in Kutupalong were attending a vigil, a group of Rohingya Muslims attacked them with sticks, knives and other weapons. They smashed and ransacked their homes, stole their belongings and beat them and their children.

#### **July 28th, 2018**

A Rohingya Christian named Zakir was summoned to a mosque and beaten by an Islamic terrorist group called Al-Yakin, also known as the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army. He was beaten so badly that he had to be hospitalized.

Three months later, on November 16, they kidnapped Zakir from the same mosque and beat him again to force him to convert to Islam. When he refused, they tied him up and planned to kill him after they prayed. Fortunately, Zakir was able to escape when they called for prayers. The next morning, they went to the responsible camp and other authorities to voice their grievances, but they refused to listen or help. So instead, some members of the Bangladesh Army took their

ration cards and kept them for about three weeks. They then arrest anyone who dares to speak out about injustice.

### **25th December 2019**

The Rohingya Christians start their Christmas program early in the morning, and the main event begins at 10 a.m.:

midnight. However, some radical Rohingya have thrown stones at churches and their homes. Inspector Somir sent members of the RAB for protection, but unfortunately, they failed. That night, three houses were destroyed and all property in Mr. Taher's house was confiscated. Inspector Somir and his team were there but did nothing.

01st January 2020

Two Rohingya Christians, Nur (62) and Mohi (35), were abducted from their homes by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army. When they found Nur's daughter, they beat her and took her phone. They then tried to rape her; a 15-year-old girl escaped in time. Two kidnapped Christians were taken to a mosque for forced conversion; they are threatened with death unless they declare kalimas

### **26th and 27th January 2020**

Shots were fired at their home and church that evening. The unarmed people used stones and Molotov cocktails. Around 10:30: Pm, a member of the Arakan Rohingya Rescue Army (ARSA) attempted to storm in with a knife during the mass stoning. They immediately tried to call the police and CIC for security reasons, but they did not answer.

Within an hour, a large group of Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army and extremists began destroying their homes and churches with machetes and other tools, looting everything. They were helpless and therefore tried to contact CIC and other authorities. They could not be contacted by anyone except SI Mubarak, who said: "I will come. It took more than an hour for him to arrive, by which time everything had been cleaned up, twelve Christians were seriously injured. They tried to show the police videos of the destruction and the crimes that had taken place; however, Inspector Somir after seeing the videos confiscated the phone and arrested Christian who took the videos. They tortured him until he lost consciousness, so they took him to Ukiya Upazila Hospital around 2am:

midnight.

A Rohingya Christian pastor, namely Taher, and his 14-year-old daughter, Mizan, have been kidnapped. They killed the pastor and forcibly converted Mizan to Islam and forced him to marry Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army,